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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 SP-02
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OIC-02 EB-07 ABF-01 COME-00 OES-06 /097 W
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R 202156Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2106
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS USUN 0159

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNDP, EAID
SUBJ: UNDP: FORMAL OPENING OF 23RD GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION

1. SUMMARY: THE 23RD UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL OPENED ON JANUARY 18 WITH MAJOR STATEMENTS BY UNDP ADMINISTRATOR BRADFORD MORSE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, MR. FRANK JUDD. END SUMMARY.

2. THE 23RD GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP) WAS FORMALLY OPENED JANUARY 18. FOLLOWING INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE DEPARTING PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ALARCON (CUBA), THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS TOOK PLACE. THOSE ELECTED WERE: PRESIDENT-AMB. JOHAN KAUFMANN, NETHERLANDS' PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, NOMINATED BY SWEDEN; VICE PRESIDENT-MR. SARFRAZ KHAN MALIK, PAKISTAN MINISTRY OF FINANCE, NOMINATED BY INDIA; VICE PRESIDENT-AMB. RAUL DESMARAS LUZURIAGA, ARGENTINE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (HE WILL ALSO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON TCDC); VICE PRESIDENT MR. EVLOGY BONEV, BULGARIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NOMINATED BY POLAND; RAPPORTEUR-P.J. KUYEMBEH SIERRA LEONE, NOMINATED BY GUINEA. THE COUNCIL THEN
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APPROVED THE AGENDA AND THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK (DP/212).

3. THE CENTERPIECE OF THE FIRST SESSION WAS A LENGTHY STATEMENT BY ADMINISTRATOR MORSE IN WHICH HE RECEIVED THE STATUS OF THE PROGRAM AND POSED A BASIC QUESTION: "SHOULD UNDP BE RESTORED AS THE PRIME CHANNEL OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE?" ADMINISTRATOR MORSE RECOMMENDED THE

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INITIATION OF A DIALOGUE LEADING TO CLEAR DIRECTIVES
FROM THE GOVERNING COUNCIL ON THE BASIS OF
WHICH UNDP WOULD DRAFT AN IN-DEPTH DOCUMENT TO BE DIS-
CUSSED AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COUNCIL. MORSE'S
STATEMENT WAS FOLLOWED BY AN EXCELLENT SPEECH BY MR. FRANK
JUDD, MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, UNITED KINDDOM
(BOTH MORSE AND UK SPEECHES ARE BEING POUCHED TO THE
DEPARTMENT). THE UK REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED A CENTRAL
COORDINATIVE ROLE FOR UNDP AND URGED GREATER COOPERATION
WITH SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN THIS REGARD. HE SAID THAT
THE UK, DESPITE INTERNAL STRICTURES AND AN OVERALL
REDUCTION OF 10 PERCENT IN ITS EXTERNAL AID PROGRAM,
INTENDED TO CONTINUE ITS ROLE IN PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
MENT THROUGH THE UNDP. MR. JUDD ANNOUNCED THAT THE UK
CONTRIBUTION FOR 1977 WOULD BE INCREASED TO 20 MILLION
POUNDS IN 1977 (VERSUS 16 MILLION POUNDS IN 1976 OR
AN INCREASE OF 25 PERCENT IN MONETARY TERMS). THE UK
SPOKESMAN ALSO CONFIRMED THAT IS PLEDGE TO THE UNITED
NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES (UNFPA) IN 1977-78
WOULD BE 3 MILLION POUNDS COMPARED TO 2 MILLION POUNDS
THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3544154
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDP: FORMAL OPENING OF 23RD GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION
TAGS: EAID, UNDP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ca1961d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009